Box: PATENT APPLICATION

NIP-219-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application:

APPLICANTS: N. NAGAFUCHI et al.

Serial No. 09/791,703

Filed: February 26, 2001

Group Art: 2125

For: A POWER PLANT OPERATION CONTROL SYSTEM AND A POWER PLANT

MAINTAINING AND MANAGING METHOD

## REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Box: Patent Application Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/791,703 filed February 26, 2001, entitled A POWER PLANT OPERATION CONTROL SYSTEM AND A POWER PLANT MAINTAINING AND MANAGING METHOD by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

- Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, as originally filed.
  - 2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

031356 U.S. PTO 10/765858

## CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee \$ 770.00

Total Claims  $2 - 20 = 0 \times 18 = $ 0.00$ Independent Claims  $2 - 3 = 0 \times 86 = $ 0.00$ Total Filing Fee \$ 770.00

- 3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$ 770.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.
- 4. Cancel claims 1-7 and 9-11 before calculating the Filing Fee.
  - A Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith.
- 5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- 6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/791,703, filed February 26, 2001.

- 7. New formal drawings are enclosed, six (6) sheets, Figs. 1-6. The drawings include corrections approved in the prior application.
- 8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174 Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663 John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293 Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846 Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR 1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120.

- The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.
- 10. Priority of Japanese patent application No. 2000-192651 filed June 22, 2000 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119. The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application, as originally filed on February 26, 2001.

Gene W. Stockman

Registration No. 21,021 Attorney for Applicants

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Date: January 29, 2004